

operating? I think that would discourage some of those Class III's of wanting those Class I's in their district. I think 662 is not a good bill. Down the road, or a different bill after we get some substantial property tax relief, I would support that kind of a measure. But I can't do it today. For that reason I will support the amendment that we have before us right now. I think it would give us some time to work out the details. I realize that there is not much in that bill right now, but I think there is enough there that we can work on and we can get something done. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: There are no other lights on for recognition. We are ready to close, if there are no other...Can Senator DeCamp and Senator Carsten work out a closing agreement.

SENATOR DECAMP: Mr. President, if you listened there was one argument and really one argument only raised against the amendment. That argument was it is drafted poorly and gives authority to the Department of Revenue. To that argument I say you are 100 percent right, completely. The amendment is badly drafted, except for one thing, the essence of the amendment is a concept. That is what you are voting on. We can tinker with how it is done and so on and so forth. I agree the bill drafter should have been...Senator Carsten and I sent it up to the bill drafter, this is what they sent back, a concept. The concept is we are shifting direction, roughly a 180 degree turn. Instead of going east we are going west. Instead of going north we are going south. Instead of financing education from property we are now abandoning that scheme. Property becomes a minor part of the financing and whatever system we devise, over the next 2 years or 36 months, that is the new system. That is what you are voting on. If you choose to make that turn, by voting for this amendment, if you choose to make that direction change, then Senator Carsten, Senator Vard Johnson, Senator David Landis can start filling in the guts, setting up a time schedule. By this summer this will be done. By next year this will be done. And you are well on your way on some of the things. LB 38 offers a heck of a chance to do a good portion of it yet this year to really firm up that change in direction. So, yes, your one objection is completely valid. But nobody dealt with the substance, except everybody agreed that, yes, we've got to do this, and that is all the amendment does. It says gut the bill, firm for the first time ever something we have all